

Seasons

photo by Hiro Matsuo

Alumni game. The game
ke men's basketball team
the court on November 17-

chedule

s Basketball

18 Clarke Classic Town-H

25 Jon Davison Classic

v. 28-Eureka 7p.m.-A

. 9-Coe 7 p.m.-H

ec. 18-Concordia(MN)-A

Nat'l Catholic Basketball

Dubuque

n. 10-Teikyo Marycrest-H

. 13-Iowa Wesleyan 3 p.m.-H

n. 15-Mt. St. Clare-A

. 17-Mt. Mercy-A

. 20-St. Ambrose 3p.m.-H

. 24-Viterbo-A

. 27-Grand View -A

. 31-Mt. St. Clare-H

. 3-Teikyo Marycrest-A

b. 7-Iowa Wesleyan-A

. 10-Mt. Mercy 1p.m.-H

. 14-St. Ambrose-A

. 17-Viterbo-1p.m.-H

b. 19-Grandview-H

egin at 7:30 p.m. unless

CLARKE COURIER

Volume LXVIII

Issue 9

Dubuque, Iowa

December 1, 1995

Junior class adopts family

by Chris Brees

It has just gotten to a point where we just can't catch up," said the mother of the family that has been adopted by Clarke's junior class.

"So many things have just gone wrong for us and we can't deal with them all on our own," said the mother.

As a community service project, the junior class has adopted a family through the Dubuque Department of Human Services. Each semester classes are required to complete a service project. The junior class chose to adopt a family through the holiday seasons. This project consists of gathering food and gifts to be given to the family throughout the season.

The process of the adoption started earlier in November when the junior class officers got in contact with Human Services. The department put the application into its computer and matched the class up with a family that was willing to accept the assistance the Clarke junior class was capable

of supplying.

Clarke's family consists of three children who range from the ages of 11 to 16. The youngest is a girl who has several medical disabilities that require numerous surgeries in the future. The two other children are attending school in the Dubuque School District.

The family difficulties started when they had to begin litigation against the contractor who had been hired to re-side and repair damages their house had sustained during the August 1994 hail storm.

The family's financial problems continued when the father sustained a neck injury that required him to be hospitalized. The father is self employed and does not receive any medical insurance through his occupation.

The family's source of income now must come from the mother, who has a seasonal job she hadn't started at the time of the of her husband was injured.

While the father was hospitalized the

youngest child was also admitted to the hospital with medical complications from her disabilities.

The family encountered another problem when they learned that their furnace would have to be replaced this winter.

"It is not that we are incapable of supporting ourselves or our family, it is just that we reached a point when it is just too much for one family to endure," said the mother. "We were surprised when we heard that there were some students that wanted to help."

We need to understand that this is not a family that has necessarily done something wrong or has made poor decisions. This family has just encountered many common problems all at the same time. They just need a little assistance and some support," said Kristine Hodapp, junior class secretary/treasurer.

The junior class has assisted by giving a food box for Thanksgiving and has made plans for helping the family for Christmas.

Any junior who is interested in helping the class with this project should contact Chris Brees at ext. 8121.

This time of year is one of the most crucial periods for those people that are homeless, out of work, or in need of assistance. It is estimated that nearly 800 residents of the Dubuque area are in need of a place to live, and there are at least 6 people that sleep on the streets every night, according to estimates from city agencies.

Those people interested in helping donate money or time may contact the Dubuque Department of Human Services at 557-8251 or they may contact Operation New View at 556-6390. If these organizations are unable to answer your questions, they will be able to help assist you in finding others that can help.

"It is nice to know that there are people out there that really do have hearts and care," said the mother. "All I can say is thank you for your help and concerns, it's just a real bad time for us."

Christmas music to fill the air

Singers,
instrumental
ensemble
to perform

by Julie Bex

The Clarke Collegiate Singers, conducted by Jeffery Pappas, will perform its Winter Concert, Sunday, Dec. 3, at 8 p.m. in the Jansen Music Hall.

Feature soloists for "Magnificat" will be Kristina Castaneda, soprano; Ann McMurray, alto; Ryan Beck, tenor; and John Zuerlein, bass.

Katie Neumann, soprano, will sing, "The Lord is My Shepherd" in Korean. Beck will sing "Hush, Somebody's Callin' My Name." Holly Jo Miller, soprano, will sing "Ride On, King Jesus."

Miller and Benjamin Welch are the pianists for the group.

Fees for the concert are \$5 adults, \$4 for time-saver students and senior citizens, and \$2 for children 12 and under.

Clarke College's Instrumental Concert Ensemble, conducted by David Resnick, will perform its Winter Concert Thursday, Dec. 7, at 8 p.m. in the Jansen Music Hall.

The group formed two and a half years ago. There are 35 members in this group.

"They are young and enthusiastic, and we have a lot of great players," David Resnick said.

They will perform 20th century American music featuring "American in Paris" by George Gershwin and "Evening with Jerome Kern."

Beth Morreale will sing a solo with the band to "Evening with Jerome Kern."

Another group that will perform will be "1550," a jazz vocal ensemble with choreography.

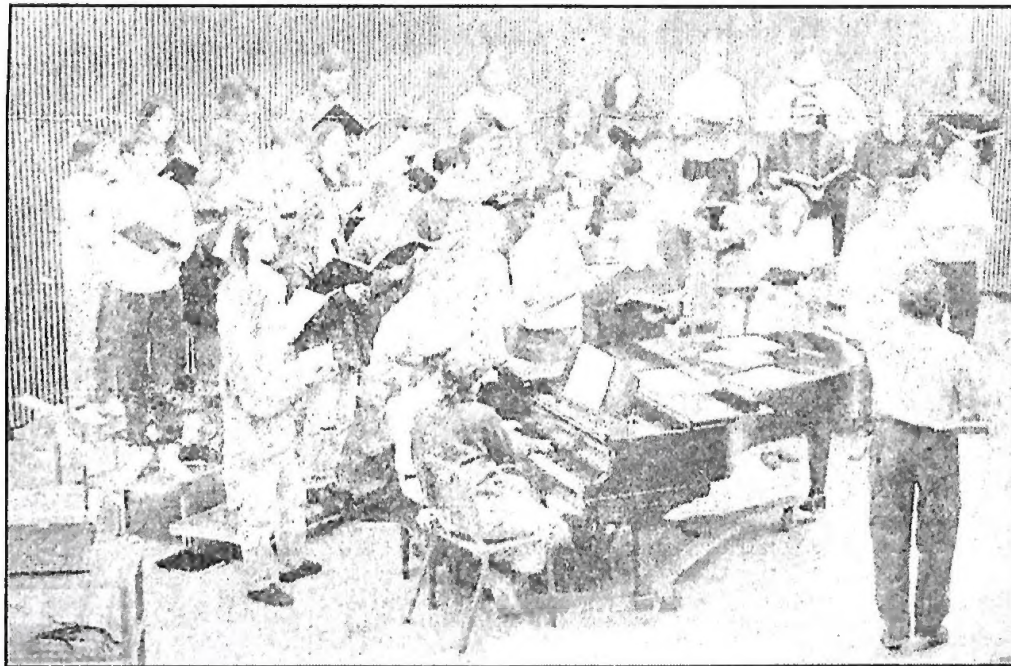


photo by Hiro Matsuo

The Clarke Collegiate Singers, under the direction of Jeffery Pappas, rehearse for the Winter Concert that will be held Sunday, Dec. 3, in the Jansen Music Hall. The singers will tour five states from Jan. 4 - 11.

"They are young and enthusiastic, and we have a lot of great players."

-David Resnick

For the finale, both groups will combine for a Christmas medley.

Feature soloists will be Dylan Mosley, Katie Gilhooly, Sarah Miller, Carin Leonard, Ben Fox, Margaret Michels, Shane Oswald, and Drew Mahacek.

"It will be a lot of fun, and it will put them in a great mood for finals week," Resnick said.

Singers to
go on tour

by Jill Kreinbring

The Clarke Collegiate Singers, along with director Jeffery Pappas, will brave the winter weather from Jan. 4-11 while they travel to Colorado, Kansas and Missouri for their annual choir tour.

Choir members will perform their winter concert on tour and will conduct two workshops. The workshops will be held at Dowling High School in Des Moines and Fort Zumwalt South High School in Saint Louis, Mo. The high school choir and the collegiate singers will combine and perform music together.

"I'm very excited about being able to work with the high school students. It will be a challenging and exciting experience for me," said Ryan Beck, junior music performance major.

While the choir is in Colorado and Saint Louis they will have free time to participate in activities of their choice.

"The students are allowed to be individuals and experience things they want to do with their free time. There are a variety of interests among the group. This trip will be a great bonding experience for them," Pappas said.

The following is the Clarke Collegiate Singer's preliminary tour itinerary:

Wednesday, Jan. 3, Rehearsal-Clarke College, 7-10 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 4, Concert-Des Moines Basilica, 8 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 5, Workshop-Des Moines, Concert-St. Bernard's, Omaha, Neb., 8 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 6, Travel to Denver, Colo.; Sunday, Jan. 7, Free Day-Denver, Colo.; Monday, Jan. 8, Concert-Hays, Kan., 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Jan. 9, Concert-Kansas City, Mo., 8 p.m.; Wednesday, Jan. 10, Concert-St. Louis, Mo., 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 11, Return to Dubuque.

"I think both concerts will go very well. The repertoire for each concert exposed us to a variety of music. The band is trying some more difficult music than before. The choir has also worked very hard and we look forward to performing this concert on our tour. We all have worked very hard and we hope everyone comes and enjoys concert," Angie Petit, a choir member, said.

The concert repertoire will include "O vos omnes" by Tomas Luis de Victoria, "Ave Verum Corpus" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, "Magnificat" by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi, "Ave Maria" by Javier Busto, "The Lord is My Shepherd" by Na Woon Young, "Sanctus from Mass" by Leonard Bernstein, "Soon-ah Will Be Done" arranged by William L. Dawson, "Hush, Somebody's Callin' My Name" by Brazeal Dennard and "Ride On, King Jesus" arranged by L.L. Fleming.

NEWS

Attention: Holiday liturgy schedule

The following is the liturgy schedule for the holiday season. All Services are held in the Sacred Heart Chapel.

Advent Reconciliation Service will be held Wednesday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be commemorated by a vigil liturgy on Thursday, December 7, at 4:30 p.m. and at the regular scheduled liturgy at noon on Friday, December 8.

Liturgy for December graduates is on Wednesday, December 13, at 5:00 p.m. followed by a reception in the Atrium. There will be no noon liturgy on this day.

There will be no liturgies from Thursday, December 21, through Sunday, January 7. Regular liturgy times resume Monday, January 8. Liturgy is held daily on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at noon. Tuesday and Thursday at 12:30 p.m.. Sunday liturgy is at 11:00 a.m.

CLARKE COURIER

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The Courier is a student-produced newspaper for the Clarke community. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff, or administration of the college.

The Courier welcomes input from members of the Clarke community. Please send comments to P.O. Box 1508, Clarke College. Letters must be signed and may be edited for content and length.

The Courier is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and holds a first class rating from the National Scholastic Press Association.

New Union night manager

by Alisa Tomko

Amy Kriesant is the newest addition to Clarke's staff as the union night manager from 3:30 til midnight. She began working Monday, November 27.

Kriesant originally from Glenview, Ill., went to Coe College where she did her undergraduate work. While there she studied theater, English, writing and poetry. At Coe she had a book of poetry published called Siren Song. She graduated in 1991 with a bachelor of arts in English, a writing minor and a concentration in poetry. Kriesant also writes for a comic book company based out of Cedar Falls.

Kriesant went to Coe College on a theater scholarship. She said she loves the technical part of theater. She said that she enjoyed working with the props, and that she did do some acting and would like to work in theater again someday.

After graduating from Coe, she worked in a professional photo lab in Waterloo. Kriesant has had a plethora of experience in the food service business from fast food to waitressing. She came to Dubuque to be closer to family and friends. She added that she was also looking to pursue new avenues of employment.

Kriesant worked at Godfather's Pizza and became interested in managerial positions. She read about this job in the Telegraph Herald.

Kriesant said her mother was an international barbershop quartet champion. Her father is a naturalist in the Chicago forest preserve. She added that her brother is a manager at a Western Warehouse in Albuquerque, N.M.

"I enjoy being back in the college environment, without the school work. I also am enjoying getting to know the students," Kriesant said.

In the future Kriesant hopes to bring some innovative ideas to the union; such as theme nights. She said she welcomes suggestions for things that they would like to see at the union in the future. She said that she will be putting a suggestion box down there. She said people should feel free to talk with her about anything that you would like to see as well. "Please be patient with me, I am learning as fast as I can," Kriesant said.



photo by Hiro Matsuo

Pancakes, anyone?

Dean Jim Petty serves pancakes to sophomore Rennee Poradzisz, and junior Krista Bjerke during an annual pancake breakfast in the cafeteria. The breakfast took place on Sunday, November 19, at 10 p.m. The pancake breakfast has been an annual tradition for at least 15 years. The faculty and staff wait on tables and serve the food and drinks to the students. The tradition began in an effort to try to get students and faculty to interact in a more casual setting than in a classroom. At least 100 students and a dozen faculty and staff turned out for this year's breakfast.

Two departments receive grants

The Clarke College music department and the physical therapy department have recently received grants totaling nearly \$20,000.

The music department received a matching grant of \$ 5,000 that was used to purchase four pieces of equipment, chimes, a xylophone, a concert bass drum and snare drum for the percussion section.

The grant was given by the Presser Foundation of Bryn Mawr, Pa. This foundation is national in scope with an emphasis on the improvement of music education.

Dave Resnick, director of instrumental music, said that he was thrilled with this grant.

He said that the Clarke instrumental music program is new; it has only been here for two and a half years and this grant is a great opportunity to expand the program.

Sister Kate Hendel, the chair of the music department, said she wrote the grant in the summer. She said that it will improve the instruments and the program. She also said that she was absolutely delighted with the grant.

The Jeld-Wen Foundation of Klamath Falls, Ore., awarded the physical therapy department with a grant of \$14,939. The grant will be used for an audio visual system. The system will include video, laser disc, CD-ROM, computer, slide projector and sound.

These will be used by the student instruction and physical therapist professional continuing education programs. The Jeld-Wen Foundation was established in 1969 with the purpose of "helping worthy endeavors" in communities where Jeld-Wen plant or business operations exist.

Friday, December 1, 1995

Artist

"Sh clay: I wa stud cult t ter it proje way -Si

by: Amy Herr

When you think of what of three years would be do year you would probably thin of singing.

But, Amy Gruhn, who tr fall from Mount Saint Clai change her major to art. SI much experience working became a dedicated student better her skills at the potter

So, when the Telegraph H signed her to design miniat some of Dubuque's histor shown at the recent Festival was excited to get to work.

"It took me a long time to Gruhn said, "especially sinc experience in clay has been wheel and the buildings wer clay slabs."

The buildings ranged fr high, each with their own lig side. The seven pieces Gru were the Old Jail, the Co Steamboat Museum, the Gaz Clock, the Orpheus theater House. The village was co lighted street lanterns, peo

"The village took me months to complete, but it wa learning experience," Gruhn said. "I also want to send out a Everyone there was so supp to all of the art faculty for al

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Artist creates a holiday touch

"She has a great affinity for clay; it responds to her well. I was very pleased to see a student take a new and difficult technique and really master it on her own. The whole project was artful in many ways."

-Sister Carmelle Zserdin



by: Amy Herr

When you think of what a voice major of three years would be doing her senior year you would probably think of some type of singing.

But, Amy Gruhn, who transferred last fall from Mount Saint Claire, decided to change her major to art. She didn't have much experience working with clay, but became a dedicated student and worked to better her skills at the potter's wheel.

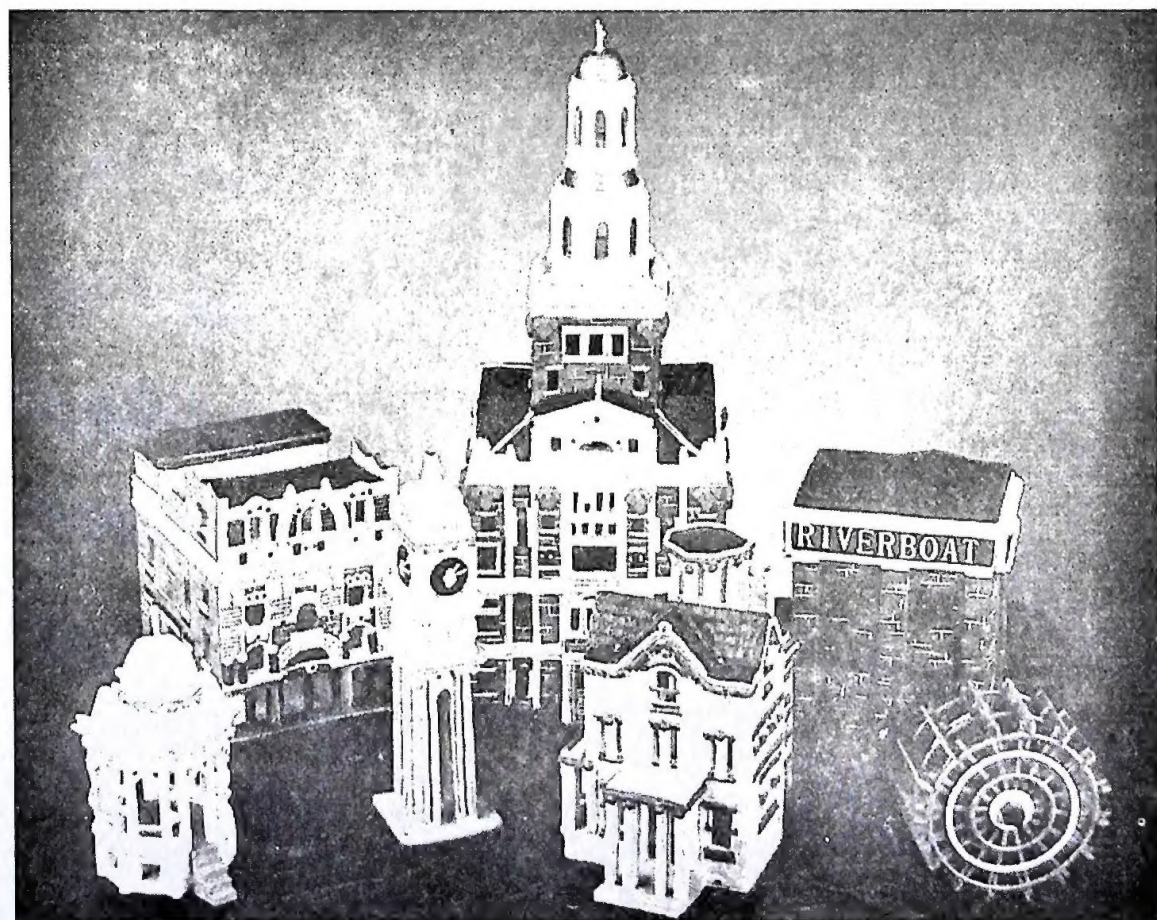
So, when the Telegraph Herald commissioned her to design miniature replicas of some of Dubuque's historic buildings shown at the recent Festival of Trees, she was excited to get to work.

"It took me a long time to get started," Gruhn said, "especially since most of my experience in clay has been on the potter's wheel and the buildings were made from clay slabs."

The buildings ranged from 6" to 12" high, each with their own lights on the inside. The seven pieces Gruhn completed were the Old Jail, the Courthouse, the Steamboat Museum, the Gazebo, the Town Clock, the Orpheus theater and the Ham House. The village was completed with lighted street lanterns, people, snow and each was properly labeled with a gold plate.

"The village took me about seven months to complete, but it was a really great learning experience," Gruhn said. "Connie Gibbs, the promotion director at the Telegraph Herald, was absolutely wonderful. Everyone there was so supportive."

"I also want to send out a special thanks to all of the art faculty for all of their guid-



ance and support," Gruhn said.

"Amy's village was one of the most creative exhibits down there," Doug Schlesier, associate professor, said. "The exhibit was really professional and excellently done."

Gruhn's village was auctioned off for \$1000, which was donated to an outreach program.

"It felt really great because the money

went to something worthwhile," Gruhn said.

Sr. Carmelle Zserdin, art department chair, said that Gruhn "achieved tremendous success with the media. She has a great affinity for clay; it responds to her well. I was very pleased to see a student take a new and difficult technique and really master it on her own. The whole project was artful in many ways," Zserdin said.

Since the village was such a success Gruhn has received many offers to do more work, but she's putting her classes here at Clarke first and anticipating her graduation next December with a BFA in art.

"I have no time to do more commissions now, but it's good to know that when I graduate I'll be able to do something that I like, which is the dream of most artists."

Amy Gruhn (above) puts the finishing touches on the courthouse. Gruhn's village, which was part of the Festival of Trees, drew many visitors.

Manager
serve. She added that her brother is a manager at a Western Warehouse in Albuquerque, N.M.
"I enjoy being back in the college environment, without the school work. I also enjoy getting to know the students." In the future Kriesant hopes to bring innovative ideas to the union, and suggestions for things that they would like to see at the union in the future. She said she will be putting a suggestion box in there. She said people should feel free to talk with her about anything that you would like to see as well. "Please be patient with me. I am learning as fast as I can," Kriesant said.

photo by Hiro Matsuo

Senior Krista Bjerke during an assembly, November 19, at 10 a.m. The faculty and staff began in an effort to try to fill the room. At least 100 students were present.

ve grants
The Jeld-Wen Foundation of Klamath Falls, Ore., awarded the physical therapy department with a grant of \$14,939. The grant will be used for an audio visual system. The grant will include video, laser disc, CD-ROM, computer, slide projector and sound system. These will be used by the student in physical therapy programs. The Jeld-Wen Foundation was established in 1969 with the purpose of "helping worthy endeavors" in the community where Jeld-Wen plant or offices exist.

HAPPENINGS

Clarke sports update

by Whitney Smith
Men's basketball

The men's basketball team took a 61-88 loss against Luther College on Wednesday, Nov. 22. Jervis Hayes was the leading scorer for the Crusaders with 18, followed by Chad Schoeckemoehl's 14. Schoeckemoehl led the team with 8 rebounds and Shean Albrecht pulled down 6 in the loss.

Tuesday, Nov. 28 the men entertained a crowded Kehl Center, in a 95-93 overtime victory over Eureka College. At the end of regulation play the teams were tied at 78 but it was the Crusaders who prevailed, outscoring the Red Devils 17-15 in overtime. Leading the men in scoring once again was Hayes with 27 and Schoeckemoehl with 18. Schoeckemoehl also pulled down 10 rebounds for the Crusaders. Brett Jondle led the team with 6 assists and Hayes also led the team with 4 steals.

The Crusaders showed their depth in the win, outscoring the Red Devil bench 29-16.

The men's next home game will be on Tuesday, Dec. 5 against Wartburg College at 7:30 in the Kehl Center.

Women's basketball

The women got second place in a tournament over Thanksgiving break, beating host University of Dubuque 70-66 in the first round. Freshman Deann Trapp led the Crusaders with 14 points, but was quickly followed by Lauri White and Jill Christopher, both with 13. Christopher shot 3 for 5 from behind the three-point arch.

White and Trapp dominated the boards with 10 rebounds each and Julie Bex led the team with 8 assists. Bex and Christopher both led the team with 3 steals. The bench played an important part in the win, outscoring UD's bench 21-7.

In the championship game of the tournament, the Crusaders took on UW Platteville on Saturday, Nov. 25. The women lost the game 44-58. Julie Bex had the hot hand shooting 4 for 4 from the field, scoring 6 of her 14 points.

Lauri White also put in 10 for the Crusaders, trapp led the team with 11 rebounds



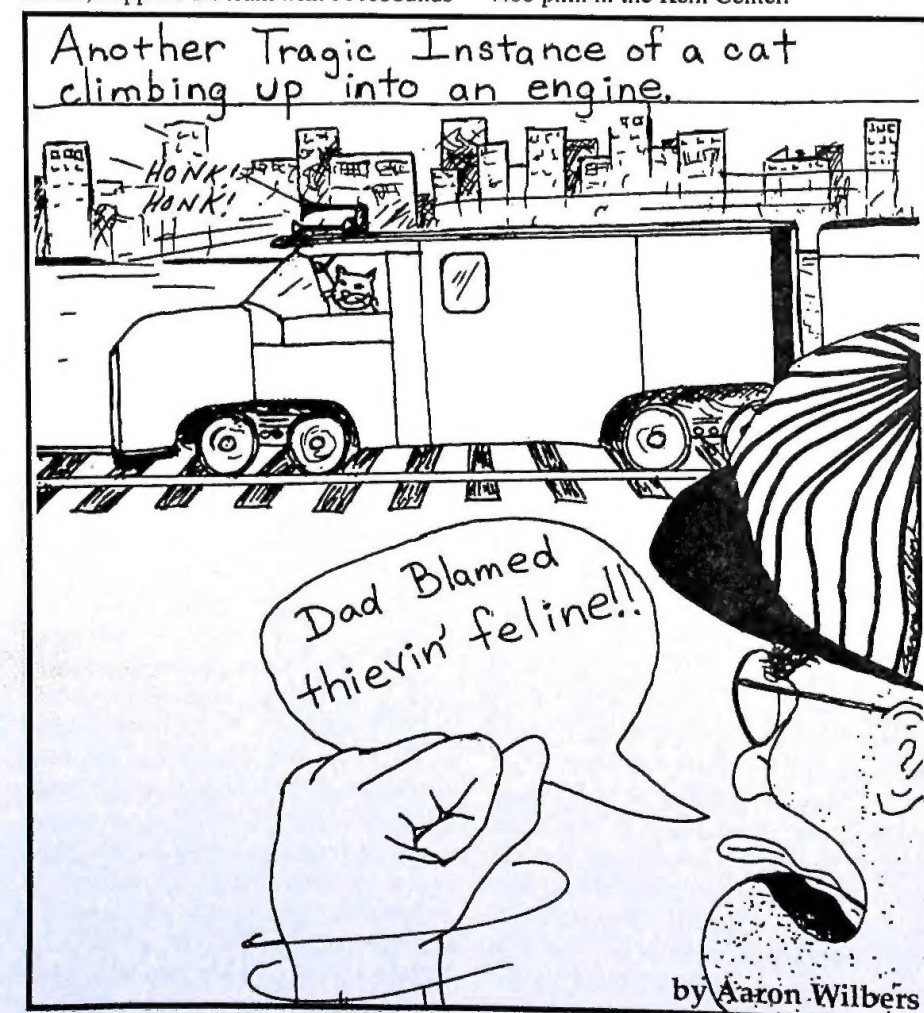
photo by Hiro Matsuo

Clarke's men's basketball team fight a losing battle with Luther College on Wednesday, November 22.

and Christopher led with four assists. The women traveled to Eureka College, Tuesday, Nov. 28, but ended up losing to the Red Devils 74-62. Trapp led the team with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Also scoring for the Crusaders, Christopher with 10, Bex with 9, and Kim Garner with 6. Coach Boike says "Eureka is a very good team. It was a well played game, especially by our younger players."

The women's next home game will be against Coe College on Saturday Dec. 9, at 7:00 p.m. in the Kehl Center.



by Aaron Wilbers

Basketball schedules

Men's Basketball

Dec. 5 -Wartburg College	Home
Dec.16 -Grand Canyon U.	Away
Dec.18 -Occidental College	Away
Jan. 3-7 -Nat'l Catholic Basketball Tournament in Dubuque	
Jan.10 -Teikyo Marycrest	Home
Jan.11 -Wm. Penn (7 p.m.)	Home
Jan.13 -Iowa Wesleyan	Home
Jan.15 -Mt. St. Clare	Away
Jan.17 -Mt. Mercy	Away
Jan. 20 -St. Ambrose	Home
Jan. 24 -Viterbo College	Away
Jan. 27 -Grand View	Away
Jan. 31 -Mt. St. Clare	Home
Feb. 3 -Teikyo Marycrest	Away
Feb. 7 -Iowa Wesleyan	Away
Feb.10 -Mt. Mercy (3 p.m.)	Home
Feb.14 -St. Ambrose	Away
Feb.17 -Viterbo (3 p.m.)	Home
Feb.19 -Grand View (5:30p.m.)	H

Games begin at 7:30 p.m. unless indicated.

Women's Basketball

Dec. 9 -Coe (7 p.m.)	Home
Dec.18 -Concordia(MN)	Away
Jan. 3-7 Nat'l Catholic Basketball Tournament in Dubuque	
Jan.10 -Teikyo Marycrest	Home
Jan.13 -Iowa Wesleyan (3 p.m.)	H
Jan.15 -Mt. St. Clare	Away
Jan.17 -Mt. Mercy	Away
Jan. 20 -St. Ambrose(3p.m.)	Home
Jan. 24 -Viterbo	Away
Jan. 27 -Grand View	Away
Jan. 31 -Mt. St. Clare	Home
Feb. 3 -Teikyo Marycrest	Away
Feb. 7 -Iowa Wesleyan	Away
Feb. 10 -Mt. Mercy (1p.m.)	Home
Feb.14 -St. Ambrose	Away
Feb.17 -Viterbo (1p.m.)	Home
Feb.19 -Grandview	Home

Games begin at 7:30 p.m. unless indicated.

Calendar of Events

Friday, December 1, 1995

- Movie "Batman Forever" - 8 p.m. Union
- Art department Christmas sale 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Atrium
- President Christmas Ensemble JMH
- Julie Connolly BFA Exhibit thru 12/15

Saturday, December 2, 1995

- Christmas in the Amanas - 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Movie "Batman Forever" - 8 p.m. Union
- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley



Sunday, December 3, 1995

- Movie "Free Willy" - 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Union
- Collegiate Singers' Christmas Concert - 8 p.m. JMH
- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley

Monday, December 4, 1995

- Movie "Free Willy" - 8 p.m. Union
- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears - 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. - JMH

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

- Jury Recital - 7 p.m. JMH
- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears - 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. - JMH

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

- Christmas caroling
- Reconciliation Mass - 7 p.m. SHC
- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley

Thursday, December 7, 1995

- Clarke Instrumental Winter Concert - 8 p.m. JMH
- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley

Friday, December 8, 1995

- Christmas Dinner - 6:00 p.m. in Cafe
- Annual Christmas Dance - Atrium
- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley

Saturday, December 9, 1995

- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley
- WBB Home Coe College - 7 p.m.

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

- Exam Week thru 12/15

Saturday, December 16, 1995

- Residence Halls Close - 8 a.m.
- MBB @ Grand Canyon University - 7:30 p.m.

Monday, December 18, 1995

- MBB @ Occidental College - 7:30 p.m.
- WBB @ Concordia (MN) College - 7:30 p.m.
- Julie Connolly Exhibit - Quigley

CL
Volume LXVIII
Clarke
Mitten Tree help
needy children
by Jill Kreinberg
"Helping those who are less fortunate should not only happen during the holidays, it should happen year round," said St. Pauli, president of Mary Benedict Hall Council.
Patti is one of the organizers for Mitten Tree party sponsored by CSA. The party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9, 1-3 p.m. in the Kehl Center.
The Mitten Tree party will be held for underprivileged children in the Dubuque area. There will be children from the Eureka, Grand View, Washington, and other non-profit organizations that work with children.
Clarke Student Association asked Mary Benedict Hall Council to provide games for the children.
Each Mary Benedict wing representative was responsible for getting volunteers from each floor to help out and organize activities.
A sing along, pin the nose on the musical chairs, face paintings and Buckets are some of the activities that have been planned.
Bozo buckets is when the person throws a ball into a bucket. If the ball lands in the bucket, the person will win a prize.
The children will also get the chance to make Christmas ornaments and hang them on a Christmas tree in the Kehl Center.
Each child who comes will leave a hat, mittens and candy. Each child will receive a pair of mittens. This is why the party is termed a "Mitten Tree party".
Christmas
by Bernadette Schenkelberg
Christmas time is here once again, time for putting up the decorations, stringing the lights, finding the perfect tree, Claus to arrive, and family traditions.
Clarke students and staff members have their own family traditions. Kristopher Van der Kruik says his family participates in a live nativity at his church in New every Christmas Eve. Along with the goats, sheep, and a cow. They even have a baby to play the part of Christ being born.
"It is very fun and uplifting. It's a real sense of what Christmas is about. It is a special time for my family and to celebrate Christ's birth. Last year Van der Kruik said he played the part of a wise man and really enjoyed involved again this year.
Another student, Paul Goldstein, grew up with the traditions of the Christmas holidays. He said that as a child he celebrated the eight days of Hanukkah and the Methodist Christmas. Christmas Eve he sits with his family.